(b) The IAP COI has suggested the following schedule for immunization of children with pneumococcal conjugate vaccine: 3 doses to be given at 6,10,14 weeks and 1 booster at 15-18 months of age.

(c) Yes. As per the recent WHO report, India accounts for the maximum 43 million new cases out of 156 million new pneumonia cases reported every year globally.

(d) No.

(e) Government takes a decision on introduction of any new vaccine on the basis of recommendation made by National Technical Advisory Group on Immunization (NTAGI).

VIPs affected by Swine Flu

1298. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Minister of Gujarat and the Principal Secretary to the Government of Gujarat Health and Family Welfare Department have been affected by Swine Flu;

(b) if so, who are the other VIPs affected by Swine flu;

(c) what is the total number of persons affected by Swine Flu in India and the persons died out of this disease;

(d) whether it is controlled or being controlled or whether it can be eradicated; and

(e) if so, the time-frame to do so?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) As per policy, the names of persons found positive for swine flu are not disclosed except to the individual himself/herself.

(c) As on 29th November, 2009, there are 18007 laboratory confirmed cases and 573 deaths due to Pandemic influenza A H1N1 (swine flu).

(d) and (e) The present Influenza Pandemic cannot be eradicated. History of past pandemics suggests that pandemic comes in waves spread over 1-2 years. The first wave that started in India in July 2009 has peaked in some State (Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh) and well under control. As of now, States of Rajasthan, Kerala, Haryana, Delhi are showing increasing influenza activity but the situation in these States are also under control.

Expenditure on health

1299. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the expenditure on health is very low in Government sector as compared to the private sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the average annual amount spent/being spent on health sector during the last three years and the current year;

(d) whether the health sector has largely been commercialized in the country; and

(e) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (e) As per the National Health Accounts India 2004-05 (with provisional estimates from 2005-06 to 2008-09), health spending by Government and private sectors in the country for the last 3 years is estimated as follows :

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Public expenditure	Private expenditure
2006-07	40678.86	127840.57
2007-08	48685.21	142690.24
2008-09	58681.38	157393.54

Information on expenditure for the current year is not available relatively low public spending on health has led to the emergence of a large private sector. This contributes towards commercialization of the health sector.

Government plans to increase the public spending on health. The Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-12) aims to raise public health spending to at least 2% of the GDP during the Plan Period.

To support the public health system in the States, Government of India had launched the National Rural Health Mission in 2005 and this has an outlay of Rs.90,558 crore during the 11th Plan period. The Mission aims to provide quality health services, which are accessible, affordable and accountable. It also strengthens the primary health care and aims of reducing the out of pocket expenditures. The allocation for a number of other programmes has also been enhanced substantially in the first two years of the Plan period.

Swine Flu cases in Maharashtra

1300. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that there is a sharp rise in number of cases of Swine Flu in the State of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that only few government hospitals are equipped to treat the patients;

(d) if so, whether he would direct the private hospitals to attend to Swine Flu cases, without charges; and